

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 21, 2013

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

## ASSEMBLY BILL

**No. 883**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Cooley**

February 22, 2013

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An act to add Article 7 (commencing with Section 18974) to Chapter 11 of Part 6 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to child sexual abuse, *and making an appropriation therefor*.

### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 883, as amended, Cooley. Child sexual abuse: prevention and intervention programs.

Existing law authorizes the Office of Child Abuse Prevention to fund, through allocations provided to local counties, child abuse and neglect prevention and intervention programs.

This bill would ~~state the intent of the Legislature to~~ *establishes the Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Program to create a pilot program in each participating county to provide child sexual abuse prevention and intervention services or fully fund agencies and private or nonprofit programs that provide child sexual abuse prevention and intervention those services. The bill would annually appropriate from the General Fund \$70,000 to each county that conducts a pilot program, thereby making an appropriation.* The bill would provide that public and private agencies shall be eligible for this funding if specified evidence is provided and would encourage counties to give priority for funding to existing programs that have demonstrated effectiveness in child sexual abuse or prevention. The bill would also make related findings and declarations.

Vote: ~~majority~~<sup>2/3</sup>. Appropriation: ~~no~~ yes. Fiscal committee: ~~no~~ yes. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the  
2 following:

3 (a) Children are a precious resource in the state and country.

4 (b) Victims of child abuse and neglect are at higher risk for  
5 alcoholism, drug abuse, depression, eating disorders, obesity,  
6 suicide, and other chronic adult health problems.

7 (c) Child abuse and neglect costs the United States at least \$97.5  
8 billion per year.

9 (d) Preventative services and training can significantly reduce  
10 the incidences of child abuse, stabilize families, and contribute to  
11 a reduction in crime.

12 (e) *While child sexual abuse programs that address increased*  
13 *reporting after-the-fact are critical to the child victims, it should*  
14 *be the goal of all Californians to promote adult and community*  
15 *responsibility to prevent child sexual abuse.*

16 SEC. 2. Article 7 (commencing with Section 18974) is added  
17 to Chapter 11 of Part 6 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions  
18 Code, to read:

19  
20 Article 7. Child Sexual Abuse Prevention and Intervention  
21 Programs  
22

23 18974. (a) ~~It is the intent of the Legislature to~~ *The Child Sexual*  
24 *Abuse Prevention Program is hereby established as a pilot*  
25 *program in each participating county to provide child sexual abuse*  
26 *prevention and intervention services or fully fund agencies and*  
27 *private or nonprofit programs that provide child sexual abuse*  
28 *prevention and intervention services* ~~by creating a pilot program~~  
29 ~~in each county to provide those services.~~

30 (b) ~~It is the intent of the Legislature to provide a minimum of~~  
31 ~~\$70,000~~ *The sum of seventy thousand dollars (\$70,000) is hereby*  
32 *appropriated annually from the General Fund to each county for*  
33 ~~the~~ *that conducts a pilot program under the provisions of this*  
34 *article to prevent and reduce child sexual abuse.*

(c) Each county is encouraged to efficiently use these funds by giving priority to programs currently serving the needs of children at risk of sexual abuse that have demonstrated effectiveness in child sexual abuse prevention or intervention.

18974.1. Public and private agencies shall be eligible for funding provided that evidence is submitted as part of the application for funding to demonstrate broad-based community support. The evidence shall further demonstrate that the proposed services are not duplicated in the community, are based on needs of children at risk, and are supported by a local public agency, including, but not limited to, one of the following:

- (a) The county welfare department.
- (b) A public law enforcement agency.
- (c) The county probation department.
- (d) The county board of supervisors.
- (e) The county public health department.
- (f) The county mental health department.
- (g) ~~The~~Any school district.

18974.2. (a) *Each pilot program may propose a multiyear plan that identifies how to advance all of the following objectives:*

- (1) Fostering community coalitions and networks for preventing and reducing child sexual abuse.*
- (2) Strengthening individual knowledge and skills in identifying risks and prevention techniques of child sexual abuse.*
- (3) Promoting community education.*
- (4) Educating providers of children services.*
- (5) Changing children's organizations practices to reduce the possibility of child sexual abuse.*

(b) *Each pilot program may create guidelines to assess the community's overall understanding of child sexual abuse.*

(c) *Each pilot program may create and track data to objectively measure changes in the community condition and attitudes towards child sexual abuse by performing certain tasks, including, but not limited, to the following:*

- (1) Reviewing local sexual violence data, police reports, and reports of child sexual abuse to measure any change in reporting.*
- (2) Identifying risk factors and protective factors particular to each community.*
- (3) Tracking increases in preventative and treatment services within the community for child sexual abuse.*

- 1     *(d) Each pilot program may develop local prevention plans.*

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